

Celebrating Arbor Day at Appleton Farms



Using the largest tree crane in New England, Maher Tree Service makes quick work of a 80-foot Norway maple. The huge tree, the largest Norway on the farm, was beginning to fall apart due to its age. Its removal will free up nearly an acre of valuable crop land for our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.

On May 1st there was more than just excitement in the air at Appleton Farms—it was joined by fluttering sawdust and woodchips, the scent of freshly fallen timber, and a cacophony of chainsaws and wood chippers. Appleton Farms in Ipswich/Hamilton was selected by the Massachusetts Arborist Association as the site of their 25th Annual Arbor Day volunteer event. On this sunny spring Saturday more than 240 professional arborists, along with their chain saws, wood chippers, and stump grinders descended upon Appleton Farms in a convoy of bucket trucks, tree cranes, and log trucks for a day of much-needed and much-appreciated tree work.

“Gifts to The Trustees come in all sizes, but the several hundred thousand dollars worth of tree care received at Appleton Farms this spring is one of the more notable,” said Wayne Castonguay, General Manager of Appleton Farms. “This donation involved the oldest arborist association in the country removing dozens of ancient trees at the

The oldest farm in Massachusetts hosts the oldest arborist association in the nation, creating the largest single-property volunteer day in the 113-year history of The Trustees of Reservations!

oldest farm in the Massachusetts, which is owned by the oldest regional land trust in the country.”

More than 50 damaged, diseased, or hazardous trees were removed by the corps of professional arborists during the largest single-property volunteer day in the 113-year history of The Trustees of Reservations. While most of the trees removed were exotic Norway maples that had reached the end of their 100-year expected lifespan, some were foreboding red oaks more than 200 years old that posed a hazard to both people and historic structures.

The volunteer arborists used the day to prune an additional 100 trees on the property, and with the help of the largest tree spade in the country, six large trees were transplanted to new areas while another six nursery trees were planted. The arborists’ 25 chippers and gigantic tub grinder consumed all of the trees and limbs removed that day, leaving behind a mountain of wood chips which will be turned into much needed compost. At the end of the day, a final commemorative tree was planted to honor the occasion.

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KENDALL'S CORNER

A Season for Activity and Activists

On any given day this summer you could find families feasting on the sun and surf at Crane Beach, dozens of fishermen arriving at dawn at Coskata-Coatue, or gaggles of youngsters running through butterfly-filled meadows at the Rock House Reservation. At press time, 200 friends and neighbors joined us for the opening of our new "green" building—the Doyle Conservation Center (LOOK FOR THIS ARTICLE IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER). Summer is far and away our most active time at The Trustees. But this year, it was also a season for activists—over 200 professionals from the Mass Arborist Association descended upon Appleton Farms, making this our largest, single-property volunteer event ever at The Trustees! And speaking of activists, I am always amazed by just how many questions I receive from folks asking for even more ways that they as individuals can further support our mission. In this issue of *Special Places*, you'll find ideas for caring for trees in your own backyard and suggestions for a natural adventure in Williamstown to give you much-needed summer respite to wind down the season. We've also come up with the following list of other things you can do to take action. This sense of personal commitment reminds me of the John Updike quote, "...this problem of space has now reached crisis proportions... eventually all of us... will have to become trustees of reservations in some sense." Thank you for being trustees along with us!



Andy Kendall
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WAYS TO TAKE ACTION AND SUPPORT THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Get involved with the legislative policies that are shaping the future of open space in Massachusetts. Sign up for

our "e-news" alerts under the "advocacy" section of our website, www.thetrustees.org. With this news alert, you can keep abreast of the specific items of legislation that directly influence the pursuit of our mission, including ways where your vote or your letter will make a difference.

JOIN YOUR LOCAL OR REGIONAL LAND TRUST

Every day in Massachusetts, 40 acres of open or wooded land are turned into pavement, parking lot, or building site. Join your local or regional land trust to help reverse this trend. Check out www.massland.org to locate a land trust near you.

CONSIDER THE FATE OF YOUR OWN PROPERTY

If you and your family have a personal commitment to conservation and you would like to consider the options for protecting your land forever, consider putting your property under a permanent conservation restriction or even donating your land one day. Our Director of Land Conservation, Wes Ward, is available to help you explore the options that are available to you. 978/840-4446 x1914 or wward@ttor.org

IN THE MARKET FOR REAL ESTATE? CHECK OUT OUR CONSERVATION BUYER PROGRAM

The Trustees of Reservations has launched a Conservation Buyer Program that connects conservation-minded buyers and sellers of real estate via a posting of properties with significant scenic, historic, agricultural, or ecological value. Currently there are several significant conservation properties posted on the website, including a 28.5-acre horse farm in Concord abutting 1,000 acres of protected land. More details on the Conservation Buyer program can be found under the "About Us" menu on our website, www.thetrustees.org.

BOOK AN EXTRAORDINARY CORPORATE RETREAT AT THE CRANE ESTATE IN IPSWICH

If your company holds off-site meetings or annual retreats, think about holding your event at the Crane Estate where all proceeds support the ongoing preservation and restoration of this 2,000+ acre property. Your corporate getaway could include an intimate retreat in the fire-lit Tavern at the Inn at Castle Hill, a festive clambake on Steep Hill Beach to reward employees for a record year, or a twilight gala at the Great House. Contact Karen Harrison, Events Manager at the Crane Estate, for more information on this inspirational setting. 978/412-2564 or kharrison@ttor.org.

Since 1891, The Trustees of Reservations has been saving the Massachusetts landscape for people to enjoy. From the mountains of the Berkshires to the beaches of Cape Cod and the Islands, our conservation work has helped protect more than 53,000 acres. We care for 23,612 acres on 94 reservations that are open to the public and we inspire the next generation of conservationists through our educational programs. We are a nonprofit organization supported by our 40,500 members.

For information about becoming a member or to request a change of address, please contact the Membership Office at 978/921-1944 x1858, email us at membership@ttor.org, or visit our website at www.thetrustees.org.

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We invite your articles, photographs, comments, and suggestions.

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www.thetrustees.org

Tree Care in Your Own Backyard

The excitement of the Arbor Day event got many of us thinking—how can we care for our own trees? To get some ideas on the topic, we asked Wayne Mitton, The Trustees' Northeast Regional Director and one of our many "arborists-in-residence". Wayne holds degrees in arboriculture, park management and forestry, and worked as a certified arborist before joining The Trustees over 25 years ago. For those caring for trees in their own backyard, Wayne has these helpful hints:

- Don't take your trees for granted. See them for more than their beauty and take a look at them from a health and safety standpoint.
- Even the partial defoliation of a tree during the growing season can severely impact its health. The most common causes of leaf loss are drought and insect infestation; however soil compaction and other activity over the root system can also hurt a tree. Any tree that suffers defoliated for two or more consecutive growing seasons will be in a weakened condition, which can lead to death. Certified arborists can help determine the cause of defoliation and suggest corrective measures to save a tree.
- If you have large trees in your yard, have them inspected by a professional arborist to determine whether there is any work needed to protect your family and your home from unseen hazards.
- A professional arborist can also: remove unsafe tree limbs, cable together large spreading limbs, and root-feed your trees to enhance their long-term health.
- Tree work is not the best do-it-yourself home project. Not only do you risk damaging the tree, but you can just as easily hurt yourself. Timber cutting is the most dangerous occupation in America according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Certified arborists are trained to take trees down safely.
- If you are looking for a professional arborist, make sure you use one that is certified. All of the volunteers that worked at Appleton Farms are certified and listed to the right for your reference.

For more information on how to find an arborist near you, visit the Massachusetts Arborist Association at www.massarbor.org.



THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS WHO DONATED THE TIME, EQUIPMENT, AND HARD WORK THAT MADE ARBOR DAY AT APPLETON FARMS A HUGE SUCCESS:

Academy Tree Service
Acorn Tree & Landscape
Arbor Solutions
ArborCare Tree Service
Bartlett Tree Experts
Bigelow Nurseries
Cambridge Landscape
Cape Ann Tree Service
Cavicchio Greenhouses
Cedar Lawn Tree Service
J.M. Cook
Corliss Bros Nursery
Davey Tree Experts
Dix Tree Service
Dodge Tree Service
Elwin Designs
Foti Tree
Town of Framingham
Full Circle Tree Care
Gaffin Tree Care
Goodell Tree Service
Hall Landscape & Tree Care
Hartney Greymont
Horticultural Technologies
Town of Ipswich
J.A.S. Landscaping
Lincoln Tree & Landscape

Lorax Tree Consulting
Lowden Sav A Tree
Lupien Tree & Landscape
G. Bourne Knowles
Maltby & Co.
P. Mastroianni Corp.
Mayer Tree Service
McBride Tree Service
Natural Cuts
Nunan's Florist and Greenhouse
A Plant Health Care Consultant
Paul West Crane Service
NSTAR
Polonski Tree Service
Sav A Tree
Storybook Tree Service
Stumpy's Tree Service
Trees Now
Tree Specialists
Tree Tech
Trees New England
Trees Unlimited
Town of Wellesley
UMASS Dept. of Forestry & Wildlife Management
Urban Forestry Solutions
Waverly Landscape



Historic postcard image
of Doane's Falls.

Then and Now: Stewarding the Changing Landscape at Doane's Falls

In the conservation world we often talk about stewardship of the land we protect. The term dates back to the management of large acreage estates and their associated buildings. Today, we use the term to describe the careful management of the collective treasures of our reservations.

One of the ways in which The Trustees is distinguished from other conservation organizations is our unique approach to stewardship. We believe that people are inextricably connected to the landscape, as they have been for centuries. So when it comes to developing a management plan for a reservation, we look at the history of human interaction with the land in order to guide our future stewardship efforts.

A prime example of this attention to historic and cultural nuance is Doane's Falls. It was once widely believed that only one mill existed along the banks of Lawrence Brook—the one which belonged to Amos Doane. But after extensive research it was discovered that three mills

STEWARDSHIP

dotted the banks of the brook to take advantage of its hydropower. The Nichols family operated two mills before Doane built his.

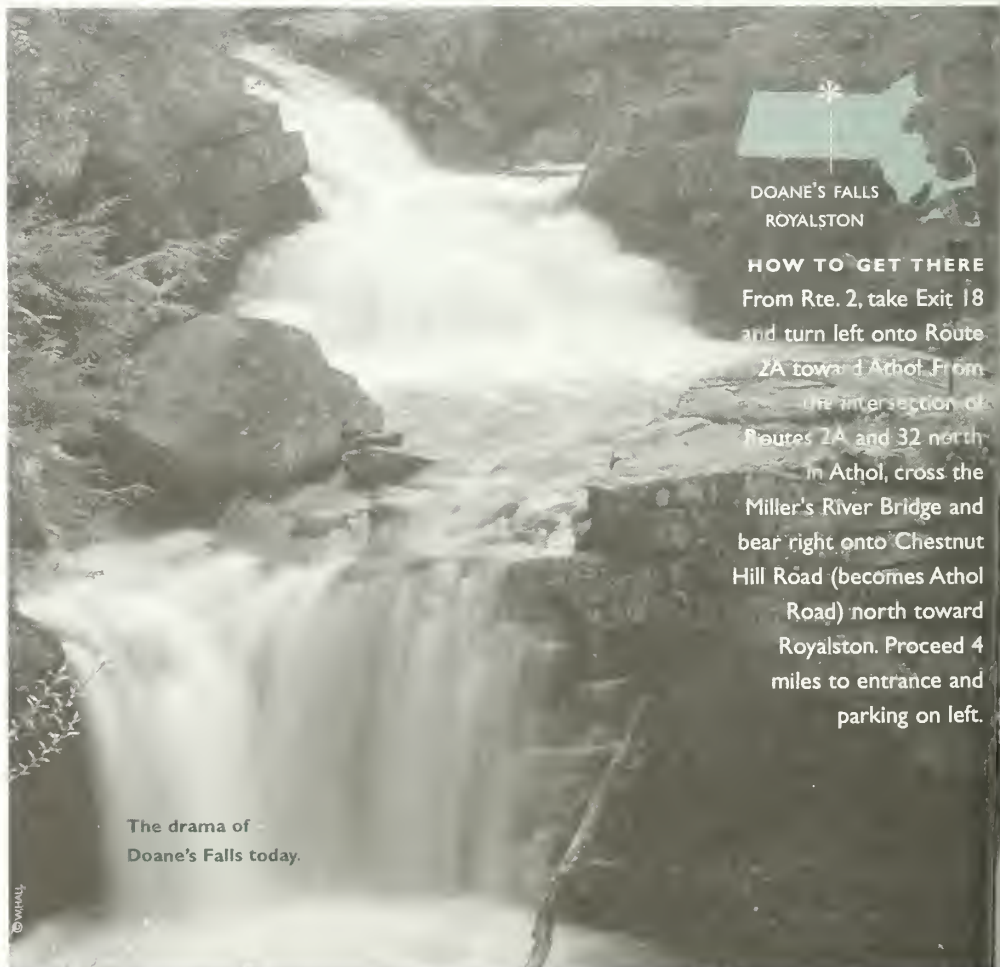
"At first glance, the Doane's Falls area looks so pristine and natural," said Electa Tritch, historian and director of Oakfield Research and author of an extensive report on the land use and cultural history of Royalston. "But when you look back at 150 years of history, this area was a very active agricultural and industrial community for that brief moment in time when Royalston was a lively town."

Through her research, Electa discovered that the path to the falls runs through the ruins of Doane's mill. Beneath decades of composted leaf litter lays the soft red brick floor of the mill. With this knowledge, the current trail will be re-routed around the mill foundation to protect the ruins. By redirecting the trail the ruins will be preserved, and visitors may gain more of an understanding

about the past uses of the falls and the ingenuity of our ancestors.

"By looking at a reservation through an historic lens, we get more of a sense of place and of belonging to the landscape around us, hence more of an appreciation for what has been preserved," said Tritch. "This helps us manage the natural and historic resources of a reservation in a way that balances access and preservation."

Tritch's cultural research is part of an effort to develop a comprehensive management plan that will guide the future stewardship of Doane's Falls. Once a popular destination for swimmers and divers, a series of tragic accidents prompted The Trustees to prohibit these activities in 2003. Through our planning efforts, we are working to provide our visitors with a safe and enjoyable experience by focusing on the property's other features, including its rich cultural history, great hiking opportunities, and dramatic scenery. ■



DOANE'S FALLS
ROYALSTON

HOW TO GET THERE

From Rte. 2, take Exit 18 and turn left onto Route 2A toward Athol. From the intersection of Routes 2A and 32 north in Athol, cross the Miller's River Bridge and bear right onto Chestnut Hill Road (becomes Athol Road) north toward Royalston. Proceed 4 miles to entrance and parking on left.

The drama of
Doane's Falls today.

EDUCATION

Watersheds and Wildlife — a Partnership Approach to Environmental Education

Bioreserve Education Coordinator Linton Harrington has begun a partnership with the Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEAL), a network of two dozen organizations that share the common mission of “encouraging environmental awareness and stewardship in southeastern Massachusetts.” Through their alliance, SEEAL members are able to offer collaborative programs and apply for funding that would be difficult for an individual organization to acquire, such as a \$200,000 appropriation awarded to SEEAL through the U.S. Department of Education to improve learning in math and science in the region. A portion of this funding was used by Linton this spring to pay for transportation and materials for 220 children from New Bedford and Fall River to visit the Bioreserve for after-school programs and to run field trips with the Westport River Watershed Alliance for all 162 7th graders in Westport to study the river and its watershed.

For more information on bioreserve education programs, contact Linton Harrington at 508/674-2254 or lharrington@ttor.org. ■



TOP & BOTTOM LEFT Bioreserve Education Coordinator Linton Harrington helps students from Westport Middle School calculate tree diameter and height as part of their forest ecology study near the headwaters of the Westport River in the Bioreserve.

BOTTOM RIGHT Children from the Dennison Community Center in New Bedford look for critters in the muck at the bottom of one of the Bioreserve's many vernal pools.

Annual Support— Going Above and Beyond!

Fiscal 2004 was once again a successful one as The Trustees surpassed its budgeted goal for Annual Giving, and income from membership dues continued its upward trend, exceeding last year's record performance by nearly 10 percent. Our sincere thanks to each of you for your generosity!

Our Annual Giving Program raised well over \$1.9 million, with *The Charles Eliot Society* leading the way with \$1,016,000 of this total—our thanks to Co-Chairs Virginia Murray and Daniel Pierce for their leadership. *The 1891 Society*, ably led by Patricia Ternes and Hooker Talcott, provided more than \$437,000 in annual support. Our deepest thanks goes out to our volunteer leaders and to everyone who spent evenings and

weekends contacting Trustees supporters to encourage their continued generosity.

Our fiscal year (ending March 31, 2004) also demonstrated continued growth in our membership program. Over that 12-month period Trustees' membership grew from 37,500 to 40,500 members. Special thanks to everyone who helped us with our membership recruitment efforts, including the members of our Membership and Volunteer Involvement Committee and our wonderfully dedicated membership department volunteers. Most especially we wish to thank each of you for so loyally and generously supporting our efforts to conserve Massachusetts' landscapes and landmarks. ■



LAND CONSERVATION

News From Around the State

Acquisitions

EASTOVER FARM

ROCHESTER & MARION

In March, MLCT acquired 173 acres from Hiller Brothers, Inc. The largely wooded property in Marion includes more than a mile along the Sippican River with mature pine woodlands and patches of Atlantic white cedar swamp. At the same time, Hiller Brothers, Inc. conveyed a conservation restriction on 177 adjacent acres of bogs and woodlands to MLCT.

Also in March, Richard Carr of Rochester donated 3.4 acres of Eastover Farm to our subsidiary, the Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT). The parcel was originally excluded from our acquisition schedule because of its value and the many other portions of the farm we were committed to purchasing. However, Mr. Carr generously agreed to donate the parcel, which abuts the remaining portions of the farm and includes fields and woodlands.

In June, MLCT acquired jointly with the Town of Rochester 53.52 acres of Eastover Farm and three conservation restrictions on 20 adjacent acres. The purchases protect the iconic rolling fields, granite stone walls, and "Hiller yellow" structures that characterize the working farm. In total, MLCT has preserved 490 of our goal of 780 acres at Eastover Farm.

The Trustees has received private gifts and pledges of \$2,070,000 towards the project which in turn have leveraged \$3,187,000 in commitments from our partners: the Town of Rochester, the Town of Marion, the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services, and the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. Without these many generous commitments, we would not have been able to proceed with our closings.

For more information on the Eastover Farm Preservation Project or to learn how to help, contact Steve Sloan at 781/828-9524 or visit our website at www.thetrustees.org.



▲ With the help of the Rochester Land Trust, Sippican Lands Trust, and the people of the Town of Rochester and the Town of Marion, The Trustees has preserved 490 acres of the picturesque Eastover Farm.

TOP RIGHT Robert Hiller, II, plants a row of peas on a portion of Eastover Farm recently protected by a conservation restriction.

BOTTOM RIGHT The Baker property in Millis and Medfield, near the Shattuck Reservation, will provide recreational opportunities along the Charles River.

PUBLIC ISSUES

Acquisitions continued...

BAKER PROPERTY

MILLIS & MEDFIELD

In June, The Trustees of Reservations received a generous gift of 55 acres in Millis and Medfield from the estate of Polly Baker and her children, Nicholas Baker, Talbot Baker, Hope Baker, and Benjamin Baker. The estate includes nearly one mile of Charles River frontage, fields, woodlands, and two residences. The property is adjacent to the Shattuck Reservation and numerous other conservation lands held by The Trustees, the towns of Millis and Medfield, and the Army Corps of Engineers. Alone, the property provides a tremendous opportunity for public use and enjoyment along the Charles River. Situated as it is among hundreds of acres of conservation land, it also adds a critical piece to a very significant conservation corridor.

Conservation Restrictions

BARNEY'S JOY

DARTMOUTH

In keeping with the extraordinary legacy of Massachusetts conservationist Angelica Lloyd Russell, the estate of Ms. Russell recently donated a conservation restriction on 32 acres of her last remaining unprotected land on Barney's Joy in South Dartmouth. Surrounded by 245 acres of beaches and farmland previously preserved by Ms. Russell, the property includes open fields that buffer the adjacent coastal dune system and provide scenic views of Buzzards Bay. In making the gift, family members Peter Macdonald, D. Lloyd Macdonald, Victoria Cunningham, Dorothy Shattuck, and Katharine Russell have helped to

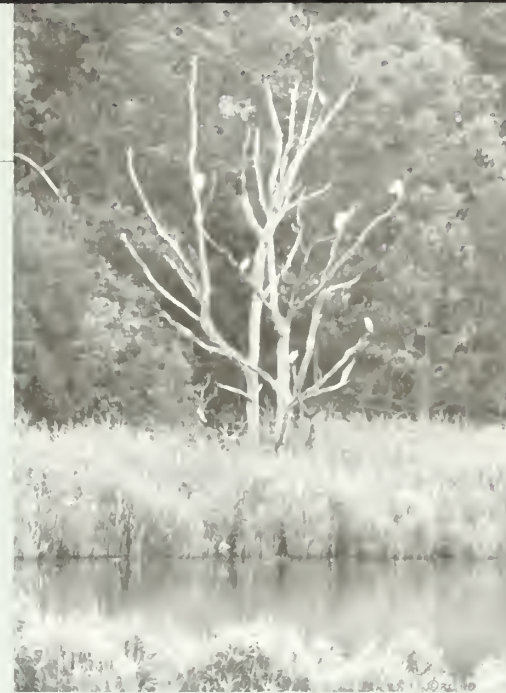
Funding for land conservation is a hot topic at both the federal and state level. The Land Trust Alliance has asked land conservationists across the country to express their support for funding for the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). LWCF was created by Congress in 1964 to help fund the creation of parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands and refuges, preserve habitat, and enhance opportunities for outdoor recreation. It is funded largely from Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas extraction fees.

Originally, LWCF was supposed to reserve \$900 million a year for conservation purposes, with half that money going to state and local governments. It is an important source of the Commonwealth's contribution to many land protection projects led by The Trustees and other Massachusetts land trusts.

Funding has been falling well short of that goal. Americans Saving American Places (ASAP) is trying to gather the signatures of over one million Americans on a petition asking President Bush to support full funding.

Please visit the ASAP website, www.asap2004.org to sign the petition. The Land Trust Alliance has worked with Americans for Our Heritage and

protect a rare coastal farm in southeastern Massachusetts and key nesting habitat for piping plovers and other threatened birdlife. This critical parcel sits between Demarest Lloyd State Park and Mass Audubon's Allen's Pond Sanctuary, which together with Barney's Joy protect approximately six miles of coastline. ■



Recreation and many other partners on a variety of efforts to support the LWCF, and The Trustees has communicated its support of the program to our Congressional representatives. Now we are asking for your help!

The goal of this campaign is one million signatures by Labor Day. Your participation is essential to win full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and other critical conservation efforts!

To receive timely Public Issues Action Alerts via e-mail, visit The Trustees website, www.thetrustees.org, and click on the yellow words "E-News" at the top of the page. Scroll down to "Subscribe to an E-newsletter" and follow the instructions. ■

conservation count		ACREAGE PROTECTED
LAND OWNED	95 reservations	23,612
LAND UNDER CR	227 parcels	14,906
ASSISTS*	96 projects	14,784
(as of 6/30/04)		TOTAL 53,301

*Assists include land protected with or for The Trustees partners as well as lands owned in fee by MLCT. This total may decline from time to time when certain MLCT properties are re-categorized as Trustees' properties or CRs

NORTHEAST REGION

On Sunday, June 13 **The Stevens-Coolidge Place** hosted the French Garden Fête as the official opening celebration for the recent restoration of the Coolidge's potager garden (PHOTO BELOW). This event was the culmination of a five-year effort which included the restoration of the 165-foot serpentine brick wall and the recreation of the 57-bed garden of fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Landscape Designer Laura Bibler shared her research on the garden to a sold-out crowd, and the public was invited to join the celebrations in the French Garden on what turned out to be a perfect day. The Stevens-Coolidge Place Property Committee members organized refreshments and a lovely array of food, and a quartet from the North Shore Youth Symphony serenaded the crowd with beautiful music.



The Appleton Farms White Park beef herd continues to grow with the arrival of this year's group of calves.

The second year of the dairy program at **Appleton Farms** is moving ahead. Calves began arriving at the end of March and the first sale of Appleton heifers under The Trustees management brought a higher-than-anticipated price at auction. New pastures and hayfields planted last season are coming online to meet the growing needs of the herd and retail hay enterprise. The total cattle population, including dairy and beef, has reached 100 head. Planning is underway to begin renovations of the remaining four livestock structures to be repaired on the farm: sheep shed, heifer barn, bull barn, and dairy barn.

The Appleton Farms Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program's third year is off to an early start. The distribution season began two weeks earlier than planned due to good weather. Growth from 230 shares last season to this year's 330 makes Appleton the largest CSA in eastern Massachusetts—the most aggressive growth rate ever attempted by a start-up CSA!

SOUTHEAST REGION

Superintendent Mike Labossiere and his summer crew are hard at work preparing the **Lyman Reserve** in Wareham, Plymouth and Bourne for its opening on September 26, 2004. They have finalized the trail layout, cleared the parking area, and are working with the GIS department on a trail map. Mark your calendars for the grand opening of this beautiful property!



1891 Society garden party attendees enjoy the restored French potager garden at the Stevens-Coolidge Place in North Andover.

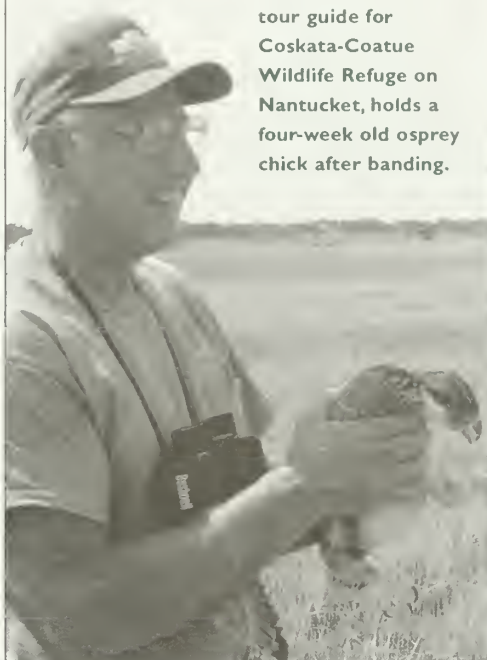
ROUND UP



CAPE COD & ISLANDS

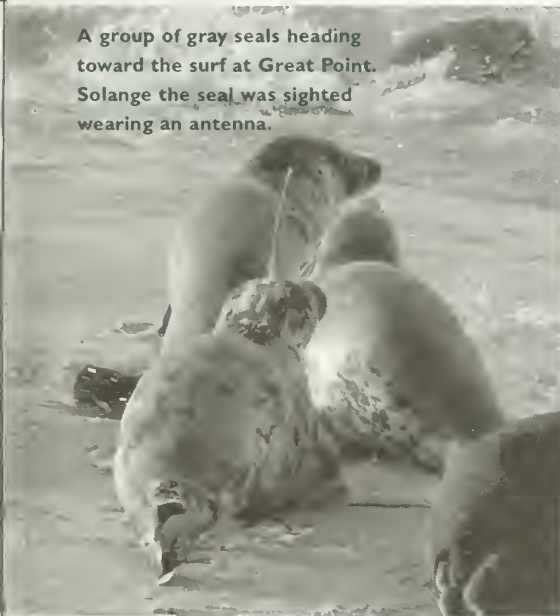
There has been lots of interesting wildlife activity at **Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge** on Nantucket this summer. Solange the gray seal visited Great Point for a few days, complete with her attached antenna (PHOTO BELOW). The antenna is glued to her skin and will harmlessly fall off when she sheds her skin in a few months. Solange was first tagged on Green Island in Maine in February, and can be tracked online at <http://whale.wheelock.edu>.

Another close encounter of the wildlife kind happened at Coskata-Coatue with the



Al Souza, part-time tour guide for **Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge** on Nantucket, holds a four-week old osprey chick after banding.

A group of gray seals heading toward the surf at Great Point. Solange the seal was sighted wearing an antenna.



banding of five rare Osprey chicks (PHOTO ABOVE), the offspring of two pairs nesting on purpose-built poles. The reservation is also hosting three other rare birds this summer: Least Terns, Piping Plovers and American Oystercatchers. As of this writing, there are four Piping Plover chicks being tended by an adult pair; four fledged and 11 unfledged American Oystercatcher chicks; and 70 adult Least Terns.



CENTRAL REGION

On May 20, the Friends of the **Rock House** and The Trustees celebrated Joe Craig and Sarah Hunt in acknowledgement of their commitment and service to the Annual Rock House Dinner and Auction. This year's upcoming dinner and auction on November 6 will mark the 10th year that Joe and Sarah have donated their auctioneering expertise to the event which has helped raise \$30,000 for the Rock House Reservation and the Lucy Stone Home Site, both in West Brookfield.



Bird Park in Walpole hosts many fun events for kids and adults alike. This choo-choo roamed the Park's paths at a town field day in May and our ice cream social in June was a HUGE success!



WESTERN REGION

In April, a group of third graders from Morningside Community School in Pittsfield participated in an educational program at the **Ashley House** called "Mumbet's World: Everyday Life in 18th Century Western Massachusetts" funded by the Pittsfield Education Enrichment Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. Elizabeth "Mumbet" Freeman was an enslaved African-American woman who sued for her own freedom from Col. Ashley in 1781. The program combined history lessons at the Ashley House with a walk through **Bartholomew's Cobble** to observe nature and the landscape once owned by Col. Ashley. School principal John Peron later commented that many of the students had never been out of Pittsfield before. Pittsfield is about a 50 minute drive north of Ashley Falls.



▲ A group of third graders from Morningside Community School in Pittsfield enjoys a nature walk in Bartholomew's Cobble. For many, this was their first time out of Pittsfield.

e-newsletters!

Stay in touch with The Trustees. Sign up for an e-newsletter at www.thetrustees.org. Click on Events at the top of the page.

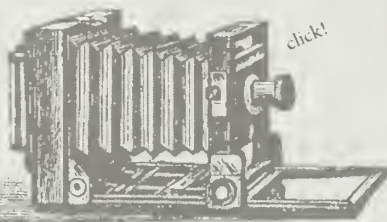


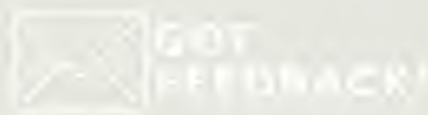
photo contest

Calling All Shutterbugs!

Enter a photo of "people connecting to the landscape" on a Trustees' property and win Richard Cheek's beautiful book of photographs, *Land of the Commonwealth*.

Please send high resolution digital images to Dawn Sylvester, Director of Marketing, at dsylvester@ttor.org or send 35mm slides to Dawn at 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915. The deadline for photos is **September 24, 2004**.

The winning photograph will be profiled in the Fall issue of *Special Places*. Go get clicking!



This newsletter is a service to you, our members, and we would like your feedback! What do you think of the articles? Would you like to see more photographs? Hiking tidbits, travel tips, advocacy alerts? Please send your thoughts, ideas, and comments to Matthew Selby, Communications Director, at selby@ttor.org or mail to 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915.



A preservation mason removes the Caesar busts from their niches on the Great House at Castle Hill.

SPECIAL PIECES Saving the Caesars at Castle Hill

Those who have visited the Great House at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate in Ipswich may remember seeing a series of niches between the first and second floor windows along the north façade (rear) of the house. For 75 years, these niches were home to 13 architectural busts of concrete and stone, cast in the likeness of the Caesars of Rome. The busts are part of the original architectural design of renowned Chicago architect David Adler, who completed the Stuart-style mansion in 1928.

Today 12 of the original busts remain which, until recently, were in various stages of disrepair. Several of the busts had rusting iron rods showing through. Given their placement in the façade's niches, not only were the deteriorating busts highly visible, but some had become a safety issue. Action needed to be taken.

Susan Hill Dolan, Historic Resources Manager for The Trustees, secured a \$4,000 Preservation Partnership Grant from the Essex National Heritage Area last year to undertake Phase I conservation treatment on the deteriorating Caesars. Preservation masons from Campbell Construction removed the busts from their niches, and then transferred them to the basement of the Great House. Here conservators from Art Conservation Associates painstakingly cleaned,

consolidated, and conserved the sculptures readying them for the second phase of the conservation treatment: making reproductions.

Phase II will include the manufacture of molds to be taken from the conserved busts, and then recasting the statues. Replicas of the 12 busts (and one identical twin) will be created from a resin composite rather than concrete. The result will be lightweight busts that will weather the marine environment far better than the originals.

As for the original busts, they will remain in collections storage for study purposes and possible display to ensure their preservation and enjoyment by future generations. ■

▼ Historic Resources Manager Susan Hill Dolan carefully cleaning one of the Caesar busts.



SPECIES PROFILE

Learning about Lepidoptera

Two rare species of Lepidoptera—the order that includes moths and butterflies—were discovered at Ward Reservation and Weir Hill in North Andover this spring.

The Sandplain Euchlaena, *Euchlaena madusaria*, is a moth listed as a species of special concern with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, part of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. The Frosted Elfin, *Callophrys irus*, is a rare butterfly also listed as special concern.



▲ This rare Frosted Elfin butterfly was captured on film by shutterbug and Lepidoptera lover Howard Hoople at Ward Resrvation this spring.

“The decision to look for these moths and butterflies was based on the presence of the likely host plants on the two properties,” explained Russ Hopping, Natural Resource Planner for The Trustees. “Lepidoptera are host-specific insects—if you don’t have the supporting plant or plants, you can’t hope to find the butterfly or moth.”

The Frosted Elfin is known to lay eggs on the flower buds of wild indigo, *Baptisia tinctoria*, and the flowers must be present in viable numbers to support the insects during their caterpillar stage. Luckily the reservations in Andover and North Andover have enough of the yellow flowers for a population of the Frosted Elfin, which can easily be seen with binoculars during the day.

As one might expect from a moth, the nocturnal Sandplain Euchlaena is a bit more mysterious than the Frosted Elfin. It is believed that these moths rely on either low blueberry or scrub oak for their survival. Both of these plant species are common at Weir Hill. Knowing that these special moths and butterflies exist on our reservations will help in the planning and management of these special places. ■

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OUT & ABOUT

Weekend Wonders in Williamstown

Wondering what to do this weekend? How about a trip west to Williamstown? Whether you're into arts and culture or hiking and biking, there is plenty to do in this Berkshire town. While you're in the area visit our two

Williamstown reservations: Field Farm and Mountain Meadow.

Art and nature lovers alike will enjoy Field Farm, which has been a center of agriculture since at least 1750. In addition to the 316 acres of fields, meadow and forest and more than four miles of hiking trails, the reservation features two houses of cultural interest. The main house, designed in 1964 by Edwin Goodell for Lawrence and Eleanore Bloedel, evokes the International style with its straight lines and extensive use of glass. The Folly, a guest house designed in 1964 by Ulrich Franzen, consists of curves centered on a central silo. Thirteen modern sculptures, including works by Richard M. Miller and Herbert Ferber, are sited in the garden. Nine are part of a collection that the Bloedel family gave to the Williams College Museum of Art and are on loan. The Folly is open for guided tours on Saturdays, 12-5PM through October 16.

Up the road, Mountain Meadow Preserve provides another four miles of trails while protecting forest, fields, and wetlands along the Massachusetts-Vermont border that are home to abundant wildlife. One trail encircles a spectacular upland wildflower meadow. A second loop trail enters the woodland, where it leads up a hill to a summit with views of Mount Greylock and the Taconic Range.

Too weary to drive back to Boston? Stay at the tranquil Guest House at Field Farm—your own special hideaway in the Berkshire Hills. Contact Inkeeper Bob Chok at 413/458-3135 or visit www.guesthouseatfieldfarm.org



HOW TO GET THERE

FIELD FARM: Take the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) west to Exit 2, Route 20 toward Lee / Lenox / Pittsfield. Follow Route 20 until it merges with Route 7 north. Follow Route 7 north to intersection with Route 43 in

Williamstown. At intersection with Route 43, pick up Route 43 south and immediately take a right onto Sloan Road. Proceed one mile to entrance on right. **MOUNTAIN MEADOW PRESERVE:** From intersection of Routes 2 and 7 in Williamstown, take Route 7 north for 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Mason St. and follow to entrance and parking. ■